

Media Release

For Immediate Release August 15, 2017 Contact: Rep. Katrina Shankland (608) 267-9649

Rep. Shankland Honors Mike Biadasz Day

STEVENS POINT – On August 15, 2016, Mike Biadasz tragically passed away after being overcome by toxic hydrogen sulfide gas while agitating a manure pit on his family's farm near Amherst.

A year later, Rep. Katrina Shankland issued the following statement:

"Today is Mike Biadasz Day. I thank my colleagues in the Wisconsin State Legislature for supporting my <u>Assembly Resolution</u> to honor Mike's memory and the legacy he leaves behind – his love of farming and his family. Mike lived by the words, 'Live today like you are going to die tomorrow, but farm today like you are going to live forever.'

"Over the past year, I've gotten to know the Biadasz family as they tirelessly work to raise awareness and funds to honor Mike's legacy. Through their efforts, they've raised tens of thousands of dollars to purchase gas monitors for family farmers while educating them about the dangers of toxic gases. I'm so grateful to the Biadasz family for their generous spirits, kind hearts, and most of all, the love for their son that they instill in everyone they meet.

"It's important to recognize that the resolution declaring today Mike Biadasz Day also calls upon all stakeholders in public health, agriculture, education, and training to establish best practices for manure pit agitation that mitigate risk and educate the public on hydrogen sulfide poisoning and other toxic gases. We must do everything we can to honor Mike and prevent another tragedy."

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